I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with 5 (1.6)x(4).

Dated: July 28, 2008 Signature:

Docket No.: 0171-1068P

Examiner: K. V. Handal

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yasuaki NOZAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/797,037 Confirmation No.: 4654

Filed: March 11, 2004 Art Unit: 1795

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

PRODUCING HYDROPHOBIC SILICA FINE POWDER

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated March 28, 2008, Applicant submits herewith the following for entry in the above-identified U.S. patent application:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP ADM/FRH/